

REMARKS:

Claims 3-8, 10-16, 18, 20-39, and 41-44 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 17, 19, and 40 have been previously canceled without *prejudice*.

Claims 3-8, 29-33, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed towards non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 10-16, 18, 20-28, 34-39, and 41-43 stand allowed over the prior art of record.

Although the Applicant believes claims 3-8, 29-33, and 44 are directed to patentable subject matter without amendment, the Applicant has amended independent Claims 6 and 44 in an effort to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the Applicant's invention. In addition, the Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to Claims 6 and 44 are not necessitated by any prior art and are unrelated to the patentability of the present invention. By making these amendments, the Applicant makes no admission concerning the merits of the Examiner's rejection, and respectfully reserve the right to address any statement or averment of the Examiner not specifically addressed in this response. Particularly, the Applicant reserves the right to pursue broader claims in this Application or through a continuation patent application. No new matter has been added.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101:

Claims 3-8, 29-33, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed towards non-statutory subject matter. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Specifically, the Examiner asserts that independent "Claims 6 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because it is directed to non-statutory subject matter, specifically, as directed to an abstract idea." (6 September 2006 Office Action, Page 2). In addition, the Examiner asserts "Applicant is advised to add a computer readable into the claims." (6 September 2006 Office Action, Page 2). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Nonetheless, the Applicant has amended independent Claims 6 and 44 to further clarify that these claims each recite a computer-implemented system for performing a business process comprising one or more processing units and one or more memory units. In addition, the Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 6 and 44 are directed to patentable subject matter and are clearly directed to patentable subject matter. The Applicant further respectfully submits that these amendments are not considered narrowing or necessary for patentability. By making these amendments, the Applicant does not indicate agreement with or acquiescence to the Examiner's position with respect to the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as set forth in the Office Action.

The Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 6 and 44 are directed to statutory subject matter and are considered to be in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101. The Applicant further respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 6 and 44 are in condition for allowance.

With respect to dependent Claims 3-5, 7, 8, and 29-33, these claims depend from amended independent Claim 1. As mentioned above, amended independent Claim 1 is considered to be in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101. Thus, dependent Claims 3-5, 7, 8, and 29-33 are considered to be in condition for allowance for at least the reason of depending from an allowable claim. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 3-8, 29-33, and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be reconsidered and that Claims 3-8, 29-33, and 44 be allowed.

In addition, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned, Steven J. Laureanti, at (817) 447-9955, if the Examiner has additional comments or suggestions to the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection of the subject Application or if the Examiner believes it would be easier to discuss the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection over the telephone.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging that Claims 10-16, 18, 20-28, 34-39, and 41-43 stand allowed over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION:

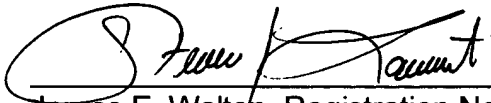
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Although the Applicant believes no fees are deemed to be necessary; the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 500777**. If an extension of time is necessary for allowing this Response to be timely filed, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to the extent necessary. Any fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time should be charged to **Deposit Account No. 500777**.

Please link this application to Customer No. 53184 so that its status may be checked via the PAIR System.

Respectfully submitted,

12/06/06
Date


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CUSTOMER NO. 53184

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